

PAPER OF RECORD: The Arkansas Democrat/Gazette
P.O. Box 2221
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203
501-378-3444
501-378-3591 (fax)

DATE PUBLISHED: **Thursday, October 26, 2017**

30-DAY NOTICE AND COMMENT PERIOD

Opportunity to Comment on Hole in the Ground Ecological Management Unit

The Ouachita National Forest, Poteau-Cold Springs Ranger District, is preparing an environmental assessment for the Hole in the Ground Ecological Management Unit. *Hole in the Ground* is located in mostly in Logan County, Arkansas extending down into Scott County, AR in Township 4 North, Range 27 West, Sections 1-4 and Township 4 North, Range 26 West, Section 6. This project area is approximately 7 miles southeast of Booneville, Arkansas, just south of the small community of Sugar Grove, Arkansas.

This area is in the northern portion of the Ouachita National Forest. Most of the private land is in Compartment 204 in the northwest portion of the project area. There are areas of private in the southwest and northeast of *Hole in the Ground*.

The proposed project is an activity implementing a land management plan and is subject to pre-decisional objection process at 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and B.

The proposed project or activity is available on-line at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=51599>.

The EA and supporting documentation is also available for review at the Cold Springs Ranger District office in Booneville, Arkansas. Additional information regarding this project or activity can be obtained from: Donna Reagan, PO Box 417, Booneville, AR 72927, (479) 675-4743 ext. 107, dreagan@fs.fed.us.

How to Comment and Timeframe

The opportunity to comment ends 30 days following the date of publication of the legal notice in [the newspaper of record]. Only those who submit timely and specific written comments §218.2 regarding the proposed project or activity during a public comment period established by the responsible official are eligible to file an objection §218.24(b)(6). For issues to be raised in objections, they must be based on previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project or activity and attributed to the objector. The publication date of the legal notice in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to submit written comments on a proposed project or activity. The time period for the opportunity to comment on a proposed project or activity to be documented with an environmental assessment shall not be extended. It is the responsibility of all individuals and organizations to ensure that their comments are received in a timely manner.

Written comments must be submitted to: District Ranger, PO Box 417, Booneville, AR 72927 or fax to (479) 675-3232. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc, .docx) to comments-southern-ouachita-coldsprings@fs.fed.us. For objection eligibility, each individual or representative from each entity submitting timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project or activity must either sign the comments or verify identity upon request §218.24(b)(8).

Please state "Hole in the Ground" in the subject line when providing electronic comments, or on the envelope when replying by mail.